August 20, 1971

Dr. James B. Rhoads
Archivist of the United States
National Archives and Records Service
Washington, D. C. 20408

Dear Dr. Rhoads:

In your letter of August 13, referring to the withholding of certain of the Warren Commission executive sessions, the last two paragraphs are unclear and/or evasive.

The first of these references to withholding allegedly is in order not to violate the "privacy of staff members or potential staff members" under 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(6).

What is lacking here is the assurance that all of what you have withheld under this citation is covered by this. I have in the past asked for that which has been withheld and is not of this definition. I now ask again that you provide it or your personal assurance that in those withheld parts there is nothing besides what "would" violate this privacy.

You invoke subsection (b)(7) in terms of the Commission's charge " to obtain all possible information concerning the assassination of President Kennedy and the killing of Lee Harvey Oswald. If any violations of federal law had been found by the Commission, the information could have been used for law enforcement purposes and the prosecution of the offenders."

The law does not provide for the conditional. It specifically eliminates it. There must be a specific federal law to enforce. If you can think of any federal law violated by either killing, I would appreciate a citation.

In the absence of your meeting both of these conditions, requirement of the law, I renew my request for what I think you clearly violate the law in withholding from me. And I ask for this or explanation promptly.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg